

Appl. No. 10/605,880
Amdt. dated December 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 21-26 and 40-59 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, claims 1-20 and 27-39 are now pending, with claims 1, 10, and 27 being independent.

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Action of October 19, 2004, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, Group 1 of the claims. Consequently, claims 21-26 and 40-59 have been canceled herein. Although the Action identifies Group 1 as "[c]laims 1-20 and 27-29," Applicant respectfully submits that the claim listing includes an inadvertent typographical error. That is to say, Applicant assumes that Group 1 actually includes claims 1-20 and 27-39.

The Action also includes a species-election requirement. In response thereto, Applicant hereby elects without traverse the species depicted in FIG. 9. Claims 1-5, 7-17, 19, 20, 27, 29, 30, and 32-29 are readable on the elected species. Furthermore, claims 1-5, 8-17, 20, 27, and 32-35 are generic with respect to the listed species.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (800) 445-3460.

A 1-month Petition for Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment, along with a check in the amount of \$60.00 for the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

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Respectfully submitted,

HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AGC', is written over a horizontal line.

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